



FIRE MOBILIZATION NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center
Camp Murray, Washington



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Fire Mobilization Ordered for Beebe Fire in Douglas County

CAMP MURRAY –State fire assistance has been mobilized to support local firefighters working to contain a wildfire which threatens residences and structures near Beebe, which is in Douglas County about four miles east of Chelan.

Washington State Patrol Chief Lowell Porter authorized the State Fire Services Mobilization Plan at 5:45 p.m. today.

At 4:40 p.m. today, Douglas County fire officials reported that fire had burned an estimated 1,000 acres and threatened residences in two subdivisions. Officials added that steep terrain, erratic winds, dry fuels and lack of access were hampering firefighters. The fire began about 5 a.m. today, officials added.

The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Camp Murray activated at 5:45 p.m. today to coordinate state assistance for the Beebe fire. Staff from the Washington State Patrol's Fire Protection Bureau and the State Emergency Management Division of the Washington Military Department has reported to the EOC.

Under the mobilization plan, the Fire Protection Bureau has coordinated the initial dispatch of approximately 30 firefighters, eight engines and two water tenders. The personnel and engines have come from Grant and Walla Walla counties.

The State Fire Services Mobilization Plan is implemented to provide personnel, equipment and other resources from around the state when wildfires exceed the firefighting capacity of local jurisdictions.

The State Enhanced 911 Office in cooperation with local telephone carriers reminds all citizens in the affected area to:

- Stay off the telephone unless you have a critical need to make a telephone call. Remember a FAX or a computer also uses a telephone line and its use may affect your ability to get immediate help in a life-threatening emergency.
- DO NOT call 9-1-1 unless you need an emergency response from police, fire or emergency medical personnel.
- If you experience other types of problems not related to these emergency services, call the appropriate telephone number for those services.
- DO NOT call 9-1-1 unnecessarily. 9-1-1 lines must be kept open for people who have a true emergency.
- If you pick up your telephone to make a call and do not hear dial tone, DO NOT HANG UP. Simply wait a few seconds, and you will get dial tone and be able to make your call.

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